A

Rt. 12, ~~XXXXXXX~~ Frederick, Md. 21701
10/2/75

Dear Shirley,

The address on the envelope is not accidental. I was reminded of an Xmas card we received from Chinese friends we knew through Lil. It was addressed to Mrs and Mr. Lillian Weisberg.

Lil, who is deep into checking copy with a friend, wants to be remembered with her best. You'll be hearing more about this soon and it will remind you as it does us of your great kindness of almost exactly eight years ago.

She is checking Post Mortem, which is greatly expanded since you retyped the first part of it. I'll be printing it before too long, with two major regrets (aside from delay): not being able to rewrite it and the cost. By insured mail it will have to be $10.75. If that is not costly by current standards it is more than I would like to have to charge. I don't know when it will appear but we will be letting people know.

Our situation remains essentially the same. Otherwise this book would have been out years ago. However, I have been engaged as a consultant on another subject in which my remote past makes me expert. It will yield enough to enable me to get Lil a new and modern typewriter. Future books will be more legible and I hope less unattractive.

What enables us to consider printing this book now is that we put aside all that came in from increased interest in the older books to reprint them and what I am to get from the Enquirer for their use in the current issue (I've not yet read it!). We are risking being able to reprint the first to go out of print (the first of the third) to do this. And we are adding much new material to it. Plans are for a total of 660pp.!

We haven't moved. They've renumbered the rural routes.

Today I received the enclosed extra copy of Anson's New Times story. He is a ripoff artist, a skilled commercializer. I have had previous experiences with him and New Times from trying to sell them ancillary rights they later just took. He is coming out with an unoriginal book for which, based on the work of others, he has received an enormous advance. Aside from the ethics of this there are problems of commercialization and what it requires being of possible hurt.

I think you will recognize much of this as work you originally did for me and I gave to Garrison, who gave it to almost anyone. What I would like, if you can and are willing, is merely to indicate what is your original work. He will not credit it. My purpose is not to make claim to the right to this work, which is yours even if you did it for me. It is merely to make a record for two purposes, one historical and the other in the event it become necessary to attempt to do something about these literary whores. To the best of my recollection, this was your original idea and he uses only what you then did. If he uses one picture you then didn't I'd be surprised. Yet he credits others. This is his special, his typical way of hiding thievery.

The notes on this copy were made by the friend who sent it to me. I've not read them. If you do have a copy, I have other friends who can use this one and it will save the time and cost of copying it.

If this request means any kind of burden for you, please just forget it. If it does not, I would appreciate it if you can do this. You know this better than I and I'm too deeply into too much to take the time.

Hope your catfish are flourishing and reproducing and selling. Perhaps I ate some last time I was in Memphis? (They were good, whether or not yours.) And we hope you are both well and happy.

Sincerely,